

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

February 24, 2005

Maricopa Association of Governments Office
302 North First Avenue, Suite 200, Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Scottsdale: Mary O'Connor for Jan Dolan, Chairperson	*Litchfield Park: Mike Cartsonis
ADOT: Bill Hayden for Dan Lance	Maricopa County: Mike Ellegood
*Avondale: David Fitzhugh	Mesa: Kevin Wallace for Jeff Martin
Chandler: Dan Cook for Patrice Kraus	*Paradise Valley: Robert M. Cicarelli
*El Mirage: B.J. Cornwall	Peoria: David Moody
*Fountain Hills: Randy Harrel	Phoenix: Don Herp for Tom Callow
*Gila Bend: Lynn Farmer	RPTA: Bryan Jungwirth
*Gilbert: Tami Ryall	*Surprise: Randy Overmyer
Glendale: Terry Johnson	Tempe: Carlos De Leon
Goodyear: Cato Esquivel for Grant Anderson	*Wickenburg: Shane Dille
*Guadalupe, Antonio Figueroa - Iturralda	

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ATTENDING

*Regional Bicycle Task Force: Randi Alcott, RPTA	Pedestrian Working Group: Eric Iwersen, City of Tempe
Street Committee: Don Herp, Phoenix	*Telecommunications Advisory Group:
*ITS Committee: Alan Sanderson	
* Members neither present nor represented by proxy.	

OTHERS PRESENT

Eric Anderson, MAG	Ali Makarachi, City of Phoenix
Ken Hall, MAG	Chris Voigt, MAG
Tom Remes, MAG	Clemenc Ligoeki, MCDOT
Kwi-Sung Kang, ADOT	Mark Young, Town of Queen Creek
Steve Tate, MAG	Dave Meinhart, City of Scottsdale
Fredda Bisman, MWM&F	Chris Plumb, MCDOT
Steve Jimenez, ADOT	

1. Call to Order

In the absence of Chairperson Jan Dolan, Mr. David Moody called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

2. Approval of January 27, 2005 Draft Minutes

Addressing the first order of business, Mr. David Moody asked if there were any changes or amendments to the meeting minutes. Mr. Terry Johnson moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Bryan Jungwirth seconded, and the minutes were subsequently approved by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

3. Call to the Audience

Mr. Moody stated that he had not received any request to speak cards from the audience, and moved to the next item on the Agenda.

4. Transportation Director's Report

Mr. David Moody introduced Mr. Eric Anderson, MAG Transportation Director, to provide the Transportation Director's report. Mr. Anderson informed the Committee that sales tax revenues were up by 8.5 percent over the previous year, and were higher than originally forecasted. Mr. Anderson then informed those in attendance that on February 17, 2005, the House Committee on Transportation met to debate baseline standards and audit requirements for light rail, as part of House Bill (HB) 2292, and that the bill failed. He informed those in attendance that the House Committee on Transportation was meeting again today at 11:00 a.m. for reconsideration of HB 2292. There were no questions, and this concluded Mr. Anderson's report to the Committee.

5. Draft FY 2006-2010 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (Listing of Projects)

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Moody introduced Mr. Eric Anderson, MAG Transportation Director, to provide an update on the Draft FY 2006-2010 MAG TIP, listing of projects. Mr. Anderson informed the Committee that the project list in Attachment One of the TRC Agenda packet was recently updated, and that the most recent version of the packet was handed out to those in attendance prior to the meeting. Mr. Anderson called the Committee's attention to the updated project listing before each member at the table, and highlighted the changes which have occurred since the packet was originally mailed.

Mr. Anderson stated that the updated Draft TIP includes listings on projects in the 04-07 TIP that were completed, underway, and deleted. He also noted that the updated draft included ADOT projects; that it deletes duplicate programming of the Northern Parkway in Maricopa County, which was also listed as a Glendale project; includes "lanes after" and "lanes before"

data for 11 Mesa projects; includes updated cost information for eight privately funded Avondale projects; and also identifies a number of additional changes. Discussion followed, and Mr. Terry Johnson stated that many of the numbers in the Regional Transportation Plan were identified in 2002 dollars, and asked whether the numbers in the TIP were based on 2002 figures. Mr. Anderson stated that MAG will need to inflate the numbers to 2005 dollars. Mr. Anderson said that while there needed to be an agreement on the appropriate inflation rate, this process has not occurred to date. After further discussion, Mr. Anderson said that the dollars would in fact be inflated within the TIP to reflect actual 2005 dollars.

Mr. Terry Johnson addressed the Draft TIP, and noted that Northern Avenue in Maricopa County had lumped all of the project's funding for the protection of right of way into FY 2009. Mr. Johnson said that it may be more practical to distribute this amount over a five year period, between the Fiscal Years of 2006 and 2010. Mr. Anderson said that this was a change that would be made by staff prior to the final adoption of the TIP by the MAG Regional Council. Mr. Mike Ellegood then addressed the Committee, and provided clarification on Maricopa County's Northern Avenue project on Page 67 of the updated Draft TIP. Further discussion followed, and Mr. Mike Ellegood then moved to recommend approval of the Draft FY 2006-2010 MAG TIP for an air quality conformity analysis, to include the changes as specified by Mr. Terry Johnson, with the understanding that MAG Staff would provide updated inflation corrections for projects in 2005 dollars. Ms. Mary O'Connor seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by subsequent voice vote of the Committee. This concluded Mr. Anderson's presentation to the Committee.

6. Modifications to the MAG Regional Transportation Plan

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Moody introduced Mr. Eric Anderson, MAG Transportation Director, to provide an update on modifications to the MAG Regional Transportation Plan. Mr. Anderson informed those in attendance that Arizona House Bill 2292 was passed during the 2003 legislative session. He stated that a protection was built into the bill's language in order to ensure that there were no last minute changes that took place, prior to a formal public review of the plan. Mr. Anderson informed those in attendance that MAG anticipated Phase changes to occur, and that a number of cities throughout the region have come forth to formally request the advancement of arterial projects from Phases II through IV (FY 2011 - FY 2026) to Phase I (FY 2005 - FY 2010) of the Regional Transportation Plan.

Mr. Anderson called the Committee's attention to a list of requested projects changes, as highlighted in Attachment Two of the Committee Agenda Packet. Mr. Anderson also called the Committee's attention to a handout containing comments on the MAG consultation process, which was distributed to each member in attendance prior to the meeting. He noted that project changes would be accomplished through local funding, which would be provided by the member agencies proposing the project advancements. Mr. Anderson stated that through the consultation process, projects from Maricopa County were overlooked, and would need to be addressed as part of the process. Mr. Anderson informed the Committee that projects from Maricopa County should be received by tomorrow.

Mr. Mike Ellegood then addressed the Maricopa County letter in the handout. Mr. Ellegood stated that the letter was a direct response to the proposed modifications to the MAG Regional Transportation Plan, and that the responses resulted from a work session with the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors. He encouraged those in attendance to provide comments as necessary. Discussion followed, and Mr. Eric Anderson said that MAG Staff was addressing the draft version of the Arterial Life Cycle Program's policies and procedures, which would be forwarded to the MAG Transportation Policy Committee in March. Mr. Anderson said that the policies and procedures for the Arterial Life Cycle Program would then be forwarded to the MAG Regional Council for final approval in May of 2005.

Discussion followed, and Ms. Mary O'Connor addressed the subject of project dollar inflation, which was discussed at the MAG Arterial Life Cycle Program Workshop on Wednesday, February 23, 2005. Ms. O'Connor wanted to reiterate the City of Scottsdale's support for inflating the 2002 dollar amounts to 2005, and for making the appropriate future inflation adjustments to accommodate member agencies that would choose to advance construct projects within the plan. Mr. Anderson addressed the Committee, and stated that MAG was in the process of addressing inflation formulas. He said that the MAG Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) will discuss how projects requesting advanced construction should be treated with respect to inflation.

Ms. Mary O'Connor then moved to recommend the proposed project phase modifications to the Regional Transportation Plan, contingent on comments from the agency consultation process, with MAG adjusting the projects for inflation. Mr. Mike Ellegood seconded the motion. Prior to a formal vote, further discussion followed. Mr. Terry Johnson stated that the concept of approving the projects for an air quality conformity analysis, and the process of adjusting advance constructed projects for the inflation of dollars, should in fact be two separate items. Mr. Johnson said that inflation needed to be addressed separately, and that he would vote against the motion as presently stated. Mr. Mike Ellegood then addressed the Committee, and stated that he felt the motion was appropriate. Mr. Ellegood said that the Committee needed to send the message that inflation is an important part of what the Region is trying to accomplish.

Ms. Mary O'Connor again reiterated the importance of having MAG Staff address the issue of inflating dollars. Mr. David Moody then asked for clarification on the appropriate wording of the motion which was made by Ms. O'Connor, and seconded by Mr. Ellegood. Discussion followed, and Mr. Moody stated that the formal motion on this item was to recommend the proposed project phase modifications to the Regional Transportation Plan, contingent on comments from the agency consultation process, and that MAG Staff will develop an appropriate formula for determining inflation in the Arterial Life Cycle Program policies and procedures. Mr. Moody then asked for a formal vote. The Committee subsequently approved the motion as stated, with Mr. Terry Johnson voting against the motion. There were no further questions, and this concluded Mr. Anderson's presentation to the Committee.

7. Interim Draft of Arterial Life Cycle Program Policies and Procedures

Addressing the next order of business, Mr. Moody introduced Mr. Chris Voigt, MAG Senior Engineer, to provide an update on the Interim Draft of the Arterial Life Cycle Program's policies and procedures. Mr. Voigt addressed the Committee, and stated that the policies and procedures for the Arterial Life Cycle Program were developed in response to Arizona House Bill (HB) 2456, which sets forth specific requirements for the budget process to ensure that costs do not exceed revenues. Mr. Voigt noted that other constraints and changes as imposed by statutory requirements were provided for in the draft policies. Mr. Voigt informed the Committee that the draft policies and procedures were developed through a number of workshops that occurred between April of 2004 and February of 2005, with the last workshop taking place yesterday at the MAG offices. He also noted that any comments or input pertaining to yesterday's Arterial Life Cycle Program Workshop would be due to MAG by March 2, 2005.

Mr. Voigt then called the Committee's attention to a handout on the Arterial Life Cycle Program, which was distributed to each member in attendance prior to the meeting. Mr. Voigt said that the handout included a bullet summarization of discussion points and comments that were received at the Arterial Life Cycle Program Workshop on February 23, 2005; a section highlighting a number of edits to the draft policies and procedures; and an eight-page fact sheet for the MAG Arterial Life Cycle Program's policies and procedures. He addressed the start of consultation through the committee process, and informed the Committee of the fact that any comments received at today's meeting will be incorporated into a revised version, which will be forwarded to the MAG Management Committee on March 9, 2005. Mr. Voigt said that MAG Staff will continue to review comments and attachments as they come in, and that staff anticipated final approval by the MAG Regional Council by May of 2005.

Discussion followed, and Ms. Mary O'Connor addressed Section 210(F) of the MAG Arterial Life Cycle Program Policies and Procedures in the TRC Agenda packet, referring to revenues. Ms. O'Connor stated that this issue needed to be clarified in respect to shortfalls, and what to do on an annual basis to account for revenue fluctuations. Mr. Voigt then addressed several questions from the Committee. Discussion followed, and Ms. O'Connor then addressed Section 300 of the policies and procedures document, pertaining to project eligibility. Ms. O'Connor stated that the inclusion of the word "enhancement" in Section 300(E) changes the intent of the document's wording. She noted that sidewalks, screen walls and other projects involving artists should also be considered as eligible enhancement activities. Ms. O'Connor said that such issues pertaining to eligible activities for enhancements need to be specified and included within the document by the time the policies are adopted.

Discussion followed, and Mr. Mike Ellegood took the opportunity to address the Committee. He thanked MAG Staff for the effort that was taken in order to prepare the draft on such short notice, and stated that he would like to have another week to review the document, prior to offering comments. Mr. Anderson said that there is still time to elaborate on the policies and procedures, and that all public comment is due by March 2, 2005. Mr. Anderson thanked Mr. Voigt for his efforts in putting together the document in a very short time frame.

Mr. Terry Johnson said that he was in support of Ms. Mary O'Connor's comments regarding eligible enhancements, and including activities such as screen walls and other projects that are enhanced by artists. Mr. Johnson also addressed revenue cycles, and wanted to caution the process of introducing new projects before the older ones were completed. Discussion followed concerning revenue surplus and shortfalls; how to address project reimbursements during periods of revenue shortfalls; and the addition of new projects, should in fact a future surplus arise during the later part of the Arterial Life Cycle Program.

Mr. Anderson informed the Committee that the draft policies and procedures would be formally adopted by the MAG Regional Council before May of 2005. He stressed the importance of MAG Staff being able to incorporate all of the comments prior to Regional Council adoption. There were no further comments or questions, and this concluded Mr. Voigt's presentation.

8. Next Meeting Date

Mr. Moody informed members in attendance that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on March 24, 2005. There being no further business, Mr. Moody adjourned the meeting at 10:43 a.m.